



3749

PATENT

Attorney Docket: 2186CON(203-2164CON)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Joseph Pasqualucci Examiner: Not Assigned
Serial No.: 10/611,712 Group: Art Unit 3749
Filed: July 1, 2003 Dated: September 25, 2003
For: VALVE ASSEMBLY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

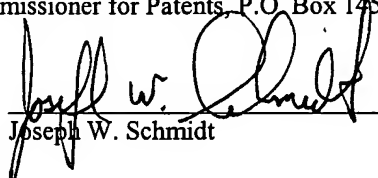
Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on September 25, 2003

Dated: September 25, 2003



Joseph W. Schmidt

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d) copies of these references may be found in the file of parent Application Serial No. 09/513,603 filed on February 25, 2000.

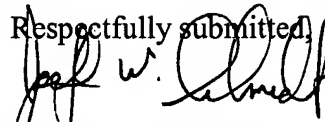
The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application

Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 50-2140. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 50-2140 therefor. **TWO**

(2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph W. Schmidt
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Attorney for Applicant

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENT

EXAMINER INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	3 4 2 1 5 0 9	01/69	Fiore			
	3 5 6 5 0 7 8	02/71	Vailliancourt et al.			
	3 8 5 3 1 2 7	12/74	Spademan			
	3 9 0 7 3 1 0	09/75	Dufour			
	3 9 9 4 2 8 7	11/76	Turp et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	0 0 5 1 7 1 8	05/82	EPO (English Language Abstract provided)				
	0 1 1 3 5 2 0	07/84	EPO				
	0 3 1 2 2 1 9	04/89	EPO				
	3 2 1 7 1 1 8	08/83	Germany (English Language Abstract provided)				
	1 4 8 2 8 5 7	08/77	Great Britain				
WO	9 3/ 0 4 7 1 7	03/93	WIPO/PCT				
WO	9 8/ 5 3 8 6 5	12/98	WIPO/PCT				

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	4 0 0 0 7 3 9	01/77	Stevens			
	4 1 1 2 9 3 2	09/78	Chiulli			
	4 1 7 3 3 5 0	11/79	Sieghartner			
	4 1 7 7 8 1 4	12/79	Knepshield et al.			
	4 1 7 7 9 9 7	12/79	Cartwright			
	4 2 4 0 3 3 5	12/80	Stucka et al.			
	4 2 4 0 4 1 1	12/80	Hosono			
	4 3 1 1 3 1 5	01/82	Kronenberg			
	4 3 3 4 6 8 8	06/82	Spargo et al.			
	4 3 3 8 6 8 9	07/82	Zieg			
	4 3 8 6 7 5 6	06/83	Muchow			
	4 3 8 7 8 7 9	06/83	Tauschinski			
	4 4 3 0 0 8 1	02/84	Timmermans			

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	4 4 4 7 2 3 7	05/84	Frisch et al.			
	4 4 6 4 1 7 8	08/84	Dalton			
	4 5 5 3 7 6 0	11/85	Reed et al.			
	4 5 8 8 1 9 5	05/86	Antonini et al.			
	4 6 0 1 7 1 0	07/86	Moll			
	4 6 2 6 2 4 5	12/86	Weinstein			
	4 6 4 1 8 4 2	02/87	Kataoka			
	4 6 5 4 0 3 0	03/87	Moll et al.			
	4 6 5 5 7 5 2	04/87	Honkanen et al.			
	4 6 7 3 3 9 3	06/87	Suzuki et al.			
	4 7 0 5 5 1 1	11/87	Kocak			
	4 7 1 5 3 6 0	12/87	Akui et al.			
	4 7 2 3 5 5 0	02/88	Bales et al.			
	4 7 5 8 2 2 5	07/88	Cox et al.			
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO

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	4 8 4 2 5 9 1	06/89	Luther			
	4 8 4 4 4 8 3	07/89	Iijima et al.			
	4 8 4 4 4 8 4	07/89	Antonini et al.			
	4 8 5 7 0 6 2	08/89	Russell			
	4 8 6 9 7 1 7	09/89	Adair			
	4 8 7 4 3 7 8	10/89	Hillstead			
	4 8 8 9 3 4 9	12/89	Muller			
	4 9 0 9 7 9 8	03/90	Fleischhacker et al.			
	4 9 1 7 6 6 8	04/90	Haindl			
	4 9 2 9 2 3 5	05/90	Merry et al.			
	4 9 3 2 6 3 3	06/90	Johnson et al.			
	4 9 4 3 2 8 0	07/90	Lander			
	4 9 6 0 4 1 2	10/90	Fink			
	4 9 6 6 5 8 8	10/90	Rayman et al.			
	4 9 9 8 7 4 0	03/91	Tellier			
	5 0 0 0 7 4 5	03/91	Guest et al.			
						YES NO

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	5 0 0 2 5 5 7	03/91	Hasson			
	5 0 1 5 0 0 0	05/91	Perini			
	5 0 3 8 7 5 6	08/91	Kepley			
	5 0 4 1 0 9 5	08/91	Littrell			
	5 0 5 3 0 1 4	10/91	Van Heugten			
	5 0 5 3 0 1 6	10/91	Lander			
	5 0 7 3 1 6 9	12/91	Raiken			
	5 1 0 4 3 8 3	04/92	Schicman			
	5 1 2 7 6 2 6	07/92	Hilal et al.			
	5 1 3 7 5 2 0	08/92	Maxson et al.			
	5 1 6 7 6 3 6	12/92	Clement			
	5 1 8 0 3 7 3	01/93	Green et al.			
	5 1 9 7 9 5 5	03/93	Stephens et al.			
	5 2 0 1 7 1 4	04/93	Gentelia et al.			
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

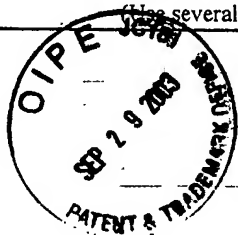
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	5 2 0 9 7 3 6	05/93	Stephens et al.			
	5 2 0 9 7 3 7	05/93	Ritchart et al.			
	5 2 2 1 2 6 4	06/93	Wilk et al.			
	5 2 2 6 8 9 1	07/93	Bushatz et al.			
	5 2 4 2 4 1 2	09/93	Blake, III			
	5 2 9 0 3 0 4	03/94	Storace			
	5 2 9 9 8 1 3	04/94	McKenna			
	5 3 0 0 0 3 6	04/94	Mueller et al.			
	5 3 0 8 3 3 6	05/94	Hart et al.			
	5 3 4 2 3 1 5	08/94	Rowe et al.			
	5 3 8 5 5 5 3	01/95	Hart et al.			
	5 3 9 5 3 4 2	03/95	Yoon			
	5 4 0 7 4 3 3	04/95	Loomas			
	5 4 1 1 4 8 3	05/95	Loomas et al.			
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		5,320,611	06/14/94	Bonutti et al.			
		5,354,280	10/11/94	Haber et al.			
		5,380,288	01/10/95	Hart et al.			
		5,391,153	02/21/95	Haber et al.			
		5,400,586	03/28/95	Bagepalli et al.			
		5,429,609	07/04/95	Yoon			
		5,439,455	08/08/95	Kieturakis et al.			
		5,443,452	08/22/95	Hart et al.			
		5,485,553	01/16/96	Kovalick et al.			
		5,554,124	09/10/96	Alvarado			
		5,568,931	10/29/96	Tseng et al.			
		5,584,850	12/17/96	Hart et al.			

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		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		EP 0 316 096 B1	05/17/89	European			X	

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